

Outdoor recreation has it all

By Staff Sgt. Jim Bianchi
AWFC Public Affairs

Year round, the Outdoor Recreation and equipment rental office offers the Nellis community members everything from lawn mowers to mountain bikes to boat rentals for their enjoyment.

"We have so much to offer, where do I begin," said Mr. Carl Coring, program director at Outdoor Recreation. "I've only been at this job for two weeks, and every day I learn about something new that we do here."

Located next to the Olympic pool, Outdoor Recreation's diversity is part of their success.

"We manage the Olympic pool, Corporate Challenge, equipment rental, local trips and the UPS shipping office. Even squadron picnic supplies like a dunk tank and a giant portable barbecue can be found here," he said. "Soon we will be adding even more!"

Focusing on the younger airmen, es-

pecially those living in the dormitories, Mr. Coring said his goal was to introduce to the young airmen all the amazing outdoor opportunities found in the area.

"Some folks here don't know it but within six hours of the base, there are hundreds of things to do," he said. "Everything from San Diego deep sea fishing, to hiking the Grand Canyon. We hope to offer as many trips to these places as possible."

According to the published schedule available at Outdoor Recreation, day trips to Red Rock Canyon, hiking around Lake Mead and a winter trip to Zion National Park, Utah, are just a few of the upcoming trips.

"This summer we're planning several canoe trips down Black Canyon, behind the Hoover Dam," he said. "The park service only allows 24 canoes a day in the canyon. That's it. Once the park service books it, it's closed to everyone. This is a beautiful trip everyone should try and take while they are stationed here."

If canoeing isn't your style, Outdoor Recreation also offers a more gingerly trip. It's like an introduction to the outdoors.

"We go to Zion a few times a year and just hang out," said Mr. Tony Taylor, a regular on these trips and a sometimes guide. "It's kind of nice and easy going, an inexpensive one-day trip to give an overview of Zion."

If you are more of a homebody and are in the mood for a little yard work, Outdoor Recreation offers lawn mowers, clipper, weed trimmers, shovels and everything else for home improvement.

What about a family trip to the lake? You could rent the 18-foot pontoon boat for the weekend or even a kayak for the day. Coolers, tents, skis, toboggans, the list is very long.

"This is the best job," said Mr. Coring, "I love the outdoors and can't wait to go on a few of these trips myself."

For more information about equipment rental or trips or even UPS shipping, come visit Outdoor Recreation, or call 652-8967.



Above, Ms. Bonnie Pearman takes a reservation for equipment as Mr. Ron Worthy and Mr. Mike Chegg both look through the paperwork needed to run Outdoor Recreation. Below, Ms. Reynolds inventories and inspects the canoes and kayaks in the storage yard.



Above, Col. Ric Cazessus, Range Management Office commander, and Ms. Reynolds pack a 50th wedding anniversary gift for the colonel's parents-in-law. The one-of-a-kind photo has to be carefully packed in a custom made box and express-shipped to Florida. All the preparation, packing materials and shipping were done at Outdoor Recreation. Customers assistance is their specialty. (Photos by Staff Sgt. Jim Bianchi)

Left, Ms. Cherie Reynolds, Outdoor Recreation, pilots the biggest boat in the equipment rental storage lot, an 18-foot pontoon boat. The boat is available for day and weekly rentals and seats 11 people.



Above, Ms. Reynolds inspects all the equipment before it is put back after a rental and before it goes out again. Below, the inside of one of the travel trailers. With more than six trailers to choose from, families can get away for a relaxing trip in the outdoors. You can take all the comforts of home with you including air conditioning, a hot shower and a soft bed. Right, Ms. Reynolds sets aside two sleds reserved for a customer.

